#### December 11, 2012

# **Parsons Faculty Council Minutes**

### Update by Craig

- Overview of the agenda
- Introduction on Aaron Fry, newest member

# **Update by Joel Towers**

- PLC council update
- Not very active this year—established 2 years ago
- Co-chairs of PFC members so could get updates, etc
- Issues around University Faculty Affairs committee –subcommittee with green paper/white paper projects also University Research Council
- Idea of Deans council meeting to keep PFC informed—monthly basis
- Idea of reducing committees and making existing bodies more active and effective
- Status of the charter document—PLC to manage the document, etc as well as the PFC to do the work as the charter moves forward
- Dissolution of the PLC—yet loss of interface with Parsons wide committees
- Questions about who serves on committees, etc. Idea of how we can collaborate from the PFC to recommend people for committees, etc.
- Parsons-wide committee—Dean directly responsible—chairs of School committees then sit on Parsons-wide committees
- Idea of knowing who is on certain committees—would help facilitate who knows who and what, etc.
- Would lead to more transparency on committee work, etc.
- PFC is on the Parsons website—Dean will put a list of committees together in diagram form
- No Parsons wide Research and Creative Practice Committee
- What is the role of Research Chairs? There are three—Hazel Clark in Fashion, Brian McGrath in Urban and Laura Briggs in Sustainability
- Position focused on a thematic area of research—responsible for building the cohort strength in that area—help form collaboration, funding, etc. Mentoring opportunities, etc.
- Not School based—idea that fashion exists across Parson in many ways, etc
- Research chairs present to Deans council—participate and also become aware of projects, etc. Report back on annual basis in terms of mentorship, research and fundraising
- Broader areas of Technology could use a Research chair
- Allows for moving outside of the School and the connections to make
- Mutually supportive push from some entity to try and make the connection between faculty and other programs more robust
- Idea of how we come to an agreement as a community? Do you just distribute? How do we pool our resources that can advance research here at Parsons?
- Idea of research on the University level? Will there be duplications or are they on the same themes?
- Faculty Affairs—has someone been selected from Cynthia Lawson's spot—appointment from the Provost office

- COACHE report progress update
- Budget presentation at first PFA meeting in the spring as well as overview of faculty with Nadine Bourgeois

## **Subcommittee Reports**

### Charter:

- Moving very slowly at the Parsons level and won't really start until next semester
- Next meeting will be able to include pieces and parts along the way
- Moved from one-year to two-year development-but this document is so important for workload, etc
- Can we ask what is happening here? Are we going to be duplicating efforts?

Questions of the role of the PFC, idea of what faculty governance is? Ways of going forward.

- Discussion of ways to move forward
- Idea of reworking the mission statement for the PFC?
- Need list for committees from Schools as well as Deans
- Suggestions for future agenda items
- Idea of revisiting the mandate for the PFC
- Subcommittees on various issues and convene subgroups
- Revisiting of the bylaws

# **Update from Advising Committee**

- Advising and faculty mentoring should be embedded in teaching
- Need to be embedded in teaching hours
- All professional advising duties stay in place—faculty mentoring enhances present structure
- Idea of how do we quantify our workload? How do we balance with our workload?

## Meeting adjourned.

# Minutes submitted by Sarah A. Lichtman

• In attendance: Shari Diamond, Thomas Werner, Aaron Fry, Jose DeJesus, Ethan Robey, Steven Faerm, Timo Rissanen, Derek Porter, Rosemary O'Neill, Craig Bernecker.